

## EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER

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Philadelphia, Friday, December 29, 1922

## SERVICE GAME PROBLEMS

INDICATIONS OF the loss of the service football game here for 1923 do not come as a surprise.

The choice of battle grounds has been in reverse a strategic preliminary to the spectacularly staged annual contests. For many seasons, although not always with success, the Navy has favored Franklin Field for parochial reasons, the most obvious of which is its accessibility to Annapolis. Equally cogent are West Point arguments in behalf of New York, reasoning which becomes effective this year under the terms of the agreement whereby the Army is entitled to make the choice, subject of course, to the approval of the superintendents of the academies.

Stories of extra time and overtime practiced here during the Army-Navy game week last month can now be taken so seriously as to govern the choice announced by Colonel Keeler, head of the West Point Athletics Committee. Without doubt a few grievances against civic hospitality were committed, but that New York or any other metropolitan community can significantly claim exemption on this score can hardly be conceded by impartial critics. Simplification of the transportation problem was assuredly a prime factor controlling the West Point decision.

The bid of other communities for the game introduces a new element for consideration. Within the last few years there has been an extraordinary increase of great athletic arenas throughout the United States. Baltimore now boasts of a fine stadium, for which a strenuous plea for recognition was entered. Claims by other cities with few facilities for accommodating major gridiron contests are certain to be registered.

A new obligation thus rests upon Philadelphians as potential hosts. The geographical advantage of this city in alternate years is great; but, even aside from moral and ethical amenities, the are signal practical reasons why this accidental favor should not be jettisoned.

## THE FIGHT AGAINST BABEL

MAX BEERBOHM has decided to make a characteristic trip to the source, but evanescent passion for visiting Russia which swept through Great Britain at the opening of the World War. The craze subsided and English matrons women resumed the old, but not the practice of relying upon the slave, resourcefulness in foreign tongues as a prop in a branch of international communications.

In reluctance to struggle with the speech of other peoples, average Americans are even more deeply rooted than Britons than by ties of blood. Refuge is sought, but by no means successfully, in jests.

The Nation's leading authorities in modern languages and literatures are in session in Philadelphia this week. Courageous attempts to prove that at least the modicum of the interminable and often discreditable "language of Britain from a scintilla of wisdom will find these valiant experts well. They have, I am confident, but the terms of their task are even more formidable.

The Klux Klans in speaking of the Ku Klux Klan have never made any secret of their efforts to entice into the ranks of their secret orders already in existence. Klansmen have waged extensive and futile efforts to maximize the prestige of some of the most notorious of their leaders. No one has had any success.

As Mr. Butler, grand master of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge of Masons, has duly barren the Klan and in declining that no good Mason will have anything to do with it he has set an admirable example. He has set an admirable example, indeed, in getting off by his pronouncing like a wise man.

**A KICK FOR THE KLAN**

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